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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system, device, and method for traffic and subscriber service differentiation using multiprotocol label switching (MPLS) creates different service tiers, where each service tier is associated with a unique combination of resource class (color) and hold priority. Enhanced MPLS devices separate traffic into separate queues based upon service tier. Standard MPLS devices are typically configured to separate traffic for different service tiers under normal operating conditions. Enhanced MPLS devices signal service tier using a predetermined signaling protocol such as RSVP-TE or CR-LDP.